

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 109477
ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01
ITC-01 SP-02 ICA-11 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01
STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 /100 R

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EB/IFD/BP:AADAMS
EB/IFD/OIA:RKAUZLARICH
-----102373 290103Z /15

P 282350Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, UNIDO

SUBJECT: UNIDO--PERMANENT COMMITTEE, TENTH SESSION,
AGENDA ITEM 4, UNIDO/UNCTAD COOPERATION

REF: (A) VIENNA 3942 AND (B) GENEVA 6468

1. SUSAN STEINER (IO/DHP) WILL CARRY A COPY OF THE POSITION PAPER ON THE PROPOSED UNIDO/UNCTAD EXPERTS GROUP ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS TO VIENNA ON MAY 2. THE DEPARTMENT IS MAILING A COPY OF THE PAPER TO GENEVA (ALLEN).

2. THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT A UNIDO/UNCTAD
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PAGE 02 STATE 109477

EXPERTS GROUP ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS WILL SERVE ANY USEFUL PURPOSE. WE CONCUR WITH THE U.K. REPRESENTATIVE (REFTEL A) THAT THE ARGUMENTATION FOR FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS IN THE UNIDO/UNCTAD DOCUMENTS IS NOT CONVINCING. (MOREOVER, THE FUNDAMENTAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IN THE UNITED STATES WOULD PREVENT MEANINGFUL U.S. GOVERNMENT PRATICIPATION IN

INTERGOVERNMENTAL FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS.) THE DEPARTMENT AGREES WITH THE U.K. REPRESENTATIVE THAT THE CHARACTER OF THE PROPOSED EXPERTS IS UNCLEAR. WE WOULD PREFER THAT AN EXPERTS GROUP NOT BE FORMED. HOWEVER, IF IT IS NOT

POSSIBLE TO KILL THE PROPOSAL NOW, THE U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD URGE THAT THE UNIDO AND UNCTAD SECRETARIATS PRESENT MORE DETAILED AND COGENT ARGUMENTATION IN ITS FAVOR AND A CLEARER EXPLANATION OF THE CHARACTER OF THE GROUP'S MEMBERS AND OF THE NATURE OF THEIR WORK. IF, IN THE END, THERE IS A GROUP B CONSENSUS IN FAVOR OF AGREEING TO THE FORMATION OF THE EXPERTS GROUP, THE U.S. DELEGATION MAY GO ALONG WITH IT.

3. IN DISCUSSING THE PROPOSAL, THE U.S. DELEGATIONS IN GENEVA AND VIENNA SHOULD USE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

-- NOTE THAT THE SECRETARIAT DOCUMENTS DO NOT ADEQUATELY EXPLAIN WHY INTERGOVERNMENTAL FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS ARE NECESSARY TO FOSTER TRADE AND OTHER ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS AND DO NOT INDICATE WHAT TRADE AND TRADE-RELATED MATTERS ARE NOT BEING DEALT WITH IN OTHER FORA LIKE THE MTN.

-- SUGGEST THAT BEFORE THE COMMITTEE CONSIDERS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD HOC EXPERTS GROUP, THE SECRETARIAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 109477

PROVIDE AN ANALYSIS OF WHAT PROBLEMS EXIST THAT ARE NOT ALREADY THE SUBJECT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS OR ARE NOT BEING DEALT WITH IN OTHER FORA.

-- (AS APPROPRIATE) NOTE THAT GIVEN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CANNOT COMMIT PRIVATE COMPANIES TO ENGAGE IN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS; NOR CAN IT GUARANTEE THE PERFORMANCE OF THOSE COMPANIES. THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE WILLING TO PUT REPRESENTATIVES OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES INTO CONTACT WITH U.S. BUSINESSES WHICH MIGHT BE SOURCES OF TECHNOLOGY, TRAINING, AND INVESTMENT. HOWEVER, SUCH COMPANIES WOULD HAVE TO DECIDE WHETHER TO ENTER INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE109477
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RCREIS:SMCP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780183-0220
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978043/aaaaacbe.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b72c54a9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 VIENNA 3942, 78 GENEVA 6468
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2886988
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNIDO--PERMANENT COMMITTEE, TENTH SESSION, AGENDA ITEM 4, UNIDO/UNCTAD COOPERATION
TAGS: OCON, UNIDO
To: VIENNA
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b72c54a9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014